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FRIDAY
JULY 24, 1953

Jean Monnet came to see me this morning. I told him of my conversations yesterday with Tomlinson about the possibility of his being offered the position of Treasury representative as one of John Hughes' deputies with the rank of Minister. Jean and I agreed that invaluable - and such is the only word for it - as Tommy is in the European Community projects, we could not stand in the way of his preferment if he were named, especially since to remain working with us he has in the last couple of years refused several flattering promotions.

I talked further with Tommy about the matter, as well as to John Hughes, who said he thought if this designation were made Tommy could still exercise some measure of supervision over European Community affairs.

I met Hervé Alphand at 12:30 to discuss the latest in EDC and EPC. The tremendous majority by which one Chamber of the Netherlands Parliament yesterday ratified EDC was most encouraging and a good follow-up of the strong endorsement given to it by Salisbury in Washington. On the other hand it looks as if de Gasperi will probably not be able to form a Government in Italy, which would be a rude blow.

I talked to Jim Conant on the phone this morning. He said [redacted] Adenauer would like me to come up and see him in Bonn next week. I hope this will prove unnecessary, for I should rather go after the Russians have answered our note on Germany and Austria.

Hervé, the Duc de Grammont, Carmel Snow, the Chambers, Robert Gérard, Marie Louise Bousquet and others came to lunch. We had asked them in honor of Carola and Ben Kittredge who were, however, unable to make it.

At about 3:15, delayed a bit by a telephone conversation with Monnet, E., Peasie, Audrey and I went forth in the station wagon with Eugene driving. Transporting a mountain of luggage, we were completely freighted. At nightfall

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we reached Amboise and put up at the Hotel Choiseul, where eight attractive rooms, a superb cuisine, and a lovely garden (featured by a gigantic redwood tree) overlooking the Loire, offer the traveler a delicious stay. It was late in the season for salmon but we had a small freshly-caught one for dinner and a Vouvray Marcontour, slightly sparkling, which has to be drunk here near its native habitat to be appreciated to the full.

After dinner we drove over to Chenonceaux. At ten o'clock the illuminated history, with many references over the loud speakers to Diane de Poitiers, Catherine de Médicis and company, was delivered. I thought the lighting superb and the whole performance even more beautiful than it had been advertised to be, which was in superlatives. There must have been at least two thousand visitors there, at 150 francs a head, which should at least pay the Chocolet Menier family for the expense of lights, guards, expositors and the rest. Back at Amboise we viewed the spotlighted castle from a distance and with admiration.

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